THE HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA AT SHILLONG

: ORDER:

CONT. CAS (C) NO. 15 OF 2017

Shri Gellong Sangma and Another Versus

Smti. Tenilla Nongrura Marak and Another

Date of Order :: 28.08.2017

PRESENT

HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE DINESH MAHESHWARI, CHIEF JUSTICE

Shri PT Sangma, for the petitioner.

Shri S Dey, for the GHADC.

BY THE COURT: (ORAL)

Having heard learned counsel for the petitioner as also learned counsel for the GHADC and having perused the material placed on record, this Court is unable to find any reason to entertain this matter in the contempt jurisdiction but it appears appropriate to leave it open for the petitioners to otherwise take recourse of appropriate remedies in accordance with law.

Shorn of unnecessary details, suffice it to notice for the present purpose that as per the material placed on record, in the dispute relating to the Nokmaship of Mansang A'khing, East Garo Hills, ultimately, the Chief Executive Member, Garo Hills Autonomous District Council recognized Smti. Malse Marak and her husband Shri Salda N. Sangma as the Nokmas by the order dated 12.03.2013. The said order was sought to be questioned by the present respondents by way of a writ petition, being WP(C) No. 213 of 2012, that was dismissed by this Court on 23.09.2013. Further, an intra-court appeal taken by the present respondents, being WA No. 37 of 2013, was also dismissed by a Division Bench of this Court on 12.05.2015. Thus, the challenge to the aforesaid order of the Chief Executive Member dated 12.03.2013 was not entertained by the High Court.

The petitioners claim themselves to be the successors of the persons earlier recognised as Nokma by the Chief Executive Member in the order dated 12.03.2013. The petitioners seek to allege that the respondents along

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with certain other persons were disturbing the office of Nokma and had even attempted to issue residential certificates to certain persons; and further, that certain persons were seeking to trespass over the A'Khing land at the instance of the respondents and in that regard, an FIR was lodged at Rongjeng Police Station on 11.05.2017.

The learned counsel Shri S Dey appearing for the GHADC submits that according to his instructions, the investigation on the said FIR is almost complete and the result of the investigation is likely to be filed in the Court within a few days.

Without any comment on the contents of the FIR and the investigation thereupon and without any other comment on any other right sought to be claimed by the petitioners, suffice it is to observe for the present purpose that in this matter, this Court had declined the writ jurisdiction in WP(C) No. 213 of 2012 and WA No. 37 of 2013 in the writ petition and intra-court appeal filed by the present respondents. However, this Court had not issued any positive direction for compliance for which, any contempt could be alleged by the petitioners. If the grievance of the petitioners is about any particular person having attempted to act contrary to the order of the Chief Executive Member, the petitioners are required to take recourse of appropriate regular remedies in accordance with law. In an overall comprehension of the matter, this Court finds no reason to take up the matter in the contempt jurisdiction.

Accordingly, this contempt petition stands rejected. However, it is left open for the petitioners to take recourse of appropriate remedies in accordance with law, in case of any legal grievance.

CHIEF JUSTICE

Sylvana Item No. 2